Rural Development Programme (IRDP) assists families below the poverty-line in rural areas through provision of income generation assets, Statement-I [*See* Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 58] indicates the targets and achievements of the No. of Beneficiaries under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the three years of Seventh Five Year Plan. Statements-II and III [*See* Appendix CXLV Annexure No. 59. and No. 60 respectively] give the employment generated through National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during the first three years of Seventh Five Year Plan. The targets of employment generation have been achieved more than 100 per cent.

Frustration among the Scientists

1627. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been lot of frustration and disgruntlement among the scientific staff working in some of the CSIR Laboratories;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to redress the grievances of these scientists, particularly from the harrassment which has been meted out to them by the superior staff in the Laboratories; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to improve the working conditions and organisation climate in these Laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir, we have no such reports.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Recently a number of steps have been taken in the CSIR for improving the administrative set up and working conditions of scientists. The system of developing more administrative and financial autonomy to the Directors of the Laboratories/Institutes and working scientists has been introduced. In the new purchase procedure, introduced recently, bench level scientists have been given functional powers for execution of projects. Introduction of new merit promotion scheme is amongst the various steps taken to further improve the working conditions and organisational climate in the Laboratories. Amongst the steps taken recently for redressal of grievances is the extension of the Central Administrative Tribunal Act 1985 to CSIR.

Pre-1973 Pensions Schemes

1628. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give the benefit under liberalised pension scheme to the pre-1973 pensioners of Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) and (b) The Liberalised Pension Formula introduced w.e.f. 1st April, 1979 envisaged:

(i) Computation of pension by slab-system, and

(ii) enhancement of ceiling on pension from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500 p.m.

The above benefits together with the reduction in the period reckoned for average emoluments from 36 months to 10 months have been extended to all pensioners including pre-1973 pensioners w.e.f. 1st April 1979.

India's efforts to resolve Kampuchean problem

1629. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any initiative to work out a political solution of Kampuchean problem; and